

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ERDA-05 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /062 W

----- 085567

R 250743Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5344

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

SECDEF WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

CINCPACFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 1838

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, NZ

SUBJ: NUCLEAR POWERED WARSHIP VISITS

1. FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECRETARY RENOUF TOLD ME THAT DURING MEETINGS WITH NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER ROWLING MARCH 24 PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM RAISED NPW VISITS WITH ROWLING. WHITLAM NOTED THAT WITH CONCLUSION FRENCH TESTING ISSUE AND WITH APPARENT RESOLUTION NUCLEAR LIABILITY PROBLEM GOA WAS MOVING TOWARD RESUMPTION OF NPW VISITS TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS. HE ASKED ROWLING WHETHER NEW ZEALAND WAS ALSO APPROACHING THIS DECISION. ACCORDING TO RENOUF, ROWLING REPLIED THAT NEW ZEALAND HAD SERIOUS PROBLEM OVER POSSIBLE PRESENCE NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON AMERICAN SHIPS AND, SINCE U.S. POLICY PRECLUDED ANNOUNCEMENTS ON THIS POINT, GNZ DID NOT FORESEE PERMITTING NPW VISITS. WHEN ROWLING ASKED IF WHITLAM WAS NOT ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF WEAPONS, WHITLAM ANSWERED THAT HE WAS NOT.

2. COMMENT: AS FORESHADOWED DURING CLEMENTS' VISIT, GOA SEEMS VERY CLOSE TO REACHING DECISION WE HAVE SOUGHT.

HARROP

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NNN

Message Attributes

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